



East Chicago
WATERWAY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

February 20, 2014

Dear Property Owner/Waterway User:

Enclosed you will find a User Fee Assessment for the parcel(s) of property identified on the assessment form. The East Chicago Waterway Management District (ECWMD) has passed a resolution to assess user fees upon owners of property along the waterway to help fund the on-going operations of the ECWMD. The authority to assess these user fees was granted to the ECWMD by the Indiana legislature which enacted I.C. 8-10-9. A copy of the relevant provisions of this law may be found on our website www.in.gov/ecwmd/.

The User Fee Assessment is based upon waterway frontage distances for property within the jurisdiction of the ECWMD. The Assessment form shows how many feet of waterway frontage were assigned to you per parcel.

Payment of the User Fee Assessment is due no later than April 1, 2014.

If you believe you were assessed in error, or that the amount of the Assessment has not been calculated correctly, you may file an appeal with the ECWMD. The Appeal Form and applicable Procedures may be found on our website www.in.gov/ecwmd/.

Non-payments Are Referred to the Indiana Attorney General's Office

In 2013, the ECWMD entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Indiana Office of the Attorney General (AG) to assist in the enforcement of these assessments and to pursue non-payers. To date, most users have promptly paid assessments, and the ECWMD is confident that, with the assistance of the Attorney General's office, it will soon be collecting all unpaid amounts.

A copy of the MOU is attached for your reference. Attorneys from the AG's office will be acting on behalf of ECWMD in any enforcement action that is taken. Non-paying users will be responsible for payment of past due assessments, in addition to post-judgment interest. Furthermore, any user that is the subject of an enforcement action by the AG's office is required to pay for its own attorneys' fees and costs.

Should you have any questions about the enforcement of user fee assessments, please contact me at (mobile) (219) 741-7714, or fmtconsulting@aol.com.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fernando M. Treviño".

Fernando M. Treviño
Executive Director, ECWMD

Attachments:

1. 2014 User Fee Assessment
2. ECWMD Communicator, dated February 19, 2014
3. MOU, between ECWMD & AG's office, dated August 6, 2013
4. Contact Update Information Form